

*DOVER CODE*

**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**CHAPTER 14**

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**[HISTORY: Adopted by the City Council of the City of Dover 12-14-77\*.  
Amendments noted where applicable.]**

General References

Planning Board - See Ch. 41.  
Subdivision of land - See Ch. 155.  
Zoning - See Ch. 170.

**14-1. Statutory authority.**

This chapter is enacted pursuant to authority granted by Chapter 36-A of the New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated.

**14-2. Establishment.**

In accordance with RSA 36-A, there is hereby established a Dover Conservation Commission, hereinafter called the "Commission."\*\*

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**\*Editor's Note: Provisions of this chapter are derived from Ch. 25 of the former Code, adopted 12-14-77.**

**\*\*Editor's Note: For provisions concerning other boards and commissions, see Ch. 3, Administrative Code, Art. IV.**

## **CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

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### **14-3. Purpose.**

The establishment of the Conservation Commission shall be for the declared purpose of developing, protecting and promoting the natural resources of Dover, for promoting an awareness of the conservation practices and policies throughout the city and for protecting the watershed resources of the city.

### **14-4. Membership; terms; removal; vacancies.** [Amended 09-20-89 by Ord. No. 21-89; Amended 03-20-91 by Ord. No. 11-90]

The Commission shall consist of seven (7) members, all citizens of Dover and all appointed by the City Council. One (1) of the seven (7) members shall be a member of the Dover Planning Board. The City Council shall appoint the original Chairman for a term of three (3) years. Appointment of respective successors shall be for three (3) year terms. The second term Chairman shall be selected by the members from one (1) of their number. Any member of the Commission so appointed may, after a public hearing if requested, be removed for cause by the City Council. A vacancy occurring otherwise than by expiration of a term shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as an original appointment. In addition to their regular members of the Commission, the City Council shall appoint two (2) alternate members, said members to serve for a term of three (3) years. Whenever a regular member of the Commission is absent from a meeting or whenever a regular member disqualifies himself, the Chairman shall designate an alternate member, if one is present, to act in the member's place.

### **14-5. Powers and duties.**

The Commission shall have the following duties and perform the following functions:

- A. The Commission shall prepare a program of conservation and a program of watershed and open space protection for the City of Dover and, in undertaking this program, shall conduct research into local natural resources, watershed areas and open spaces, along with evaluation of the uses thereof. It shall keep an index of the open areas, swamps, wetlands and areas of unique natural value of ecological importance within the city. The Commission shall coordinate its efforts with the activities of other official or unofficial bodies conducting studies, research and evaluations for similar purposes.

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- B. The Commission shall prepare, adopt and, from time to time, review and amend a conservation and open space plan and shall submit said plan to the Planning Board for consideration as part of the Comprehensive Plan for the City of Dover. In preparation of said plan, the Commission shall also obtain information pertinent to the proper utilization of open areas in the city, including any lands owned by the city and by the state, and shall make recommendations for the better promotion, development or utilization of said natural resources and open areas in the city.
- C. The Commission shall inform itself of the ways and means by which its plans and programs may be achieved and shall advise municipal agencies, the City Council, private interests and the public of the manner in which these objectives may be accomplished. It may accordingly advertise, prepare, print and distribute books, maps, charts, plans and pamphlets which in its judgment, it deems necessary for its work as defined herein.
- D. The Commission shall adopt bylaws and shall keep accurate records of its meetings and actions and shall file an annual report with the City Council which shall be included in the annual city report.
- E. The Commission may receive gifts of money and property, both real and personal, in the name of the city, subject to approval of the City Council; such gifts to be managed and controlled by the Commission for the purposes of this section. it may also, subject to approval of the City Council, acquire by gift, purchase, grant, bequest, devise, lease or otherwise the fee in such land or water rights or any lesser interest, development right, easement, covenant or other contractual right, including conveyances with conditions, limitations or revisions, as may be necessary to acquire, maintain, improve, protect or limit the future use of or otherwise conserve and properly utilize open spaces and other land and water areas within the city. The Commission shall manage and control such property in accordance with the purpose of this chapter, subject to the review of the City Council.
- F. Any moneys received by the Commission shall be placed in a conservation fund and allowed to accumulate from year to year, and such moneys may be expended from said fund for purposes consistent with this chapter. The city may also make appropriations to the Conservation Fund. All moneys maintained or expended by the Commission shall be recorded in accordance with city accounting procedures, and any matters relating to personnel shall be governed in a manner consistent with the pertinent requirements of the City Charter and appropriate city ordinances.